

SENATE BILL REPORT

HB 2044

As of Second Reading

Title: An act relating to delaying the implementation of the family leave insurance program until funding and payment of benefits are authorized in law.

Brief Description: Delaying the implementation of the family leave insurance program until funding and payment of benefits are authorized in law.

Sponsors: Representatives Hunter and Sullivan.

Brief History: Passed House: 4/25/13, 67-29; 6/28/13, 70-19.

Committee Activity: Ways & Means:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

Staff: Steve Jones (786-7440)

Background: In 2007 the Legislature established a framework for a family leave insurance program. The Legislature delayed implementation of the family leave insurance program in 2009 and again in 2011.

Beginning October 1, 2015, the family leave insurance program would provide benefits of up to \$250 per week for up to five weeks to eligible employees who are unable to perform their regular or customary work due to the birth of a child or to care for a newly adopted child.

Beginning on September 1, 2016, the agency administering the program must report annually to the Legislature on program participation, premium rates, fund balances, and outreach efforts.

Summary of Bill: The October 1, 2015, implementation date for family leave insurance benefits is removed. Family leave insurance benefits will become payable when the Legislature has specifically appropriated funding and enacted an implementation date.

The September 1, 2016, effective date for annual reports to the Legislature is removed. The administering agency will begin submitting annual reports to the Legislature one year after the enacted implementation date of benefits.

Appropriation: None.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.